Appl. No. 10/540,175 Amdt. Dated March 31, 2008 Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2008

REMARKS

Claims

The Examiner rejected claims 22 and 25. By this amendment, claims 22 and 25 have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-21, 23, 24, 26 and 27 remain pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

With reference to paragraph 2 of the Office Action, claims 22 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Iliuk et al. (Australian Publication 2000014921). The applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection. Nonetheless, claims 22 and 25 have been cancelled without prejudice, rendering the Examiner's rejections moot.

With reference to paragraph 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner has allowed the remaining claims 1-21, 23, 24, 26 and 27. The applicant therefore considers the application to be able to proceed to allowance.

Conclusion

In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that claims 1-21, 23, 24, 26 and 27 are neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the prior art of record and that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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